

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/JP03/12728

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER

Int.Cl⁷ G01J9/00, G01B11/00, G01B11/28

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)

Int.Cl⁷ G01J9/00-9/04

Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched

Jitsuyo Shinan Koho	1922-1996	Toroku Jitsuyo Shinan Koho	1994-2003
Kokai Jitsuyo Shinan Koho	1971-2003	Jitsuyo Shinan Toroku Koho	1996-2003

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)
WPI/L

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

Category*	Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages	Relevant to claim No.
X	WO 95/34800 A (VISIONIX LTD.), 21 December, 1995 (21.12.95), Page 16, lines 6 to 25; page 29, line 17 to page 33, line 33; Figs. 13, 18 to 20 & US 5825476 A & EP 765468 A	1, 2, 5-7 <u>3, 4</u>
Y	JP 2000-283853 A (Mitsubishi Electric Corp.), 13 October, 2000 (13.10.00), Par. Nos. [0027] to [0029]; Figs. 1 to 2 (Family: none)	3
Y	JP 8-262650 A (Canon Inc.), 11 October, 1996 (11.10.96), Par. No. [0010] (Family: none)	4

 Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

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"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search
02 December, 2003 (02.12.03)Date of mailing of the international search report
16 December, 2003 (16.12.03)Name and mailing address of the ISA/
Japanese Patent Office

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